

Message Text

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STADIS//////////

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UN

SUBJECT:WORLD FOOD COUNCIL - FOOD PLANS

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FRANK ONLY FROM IO/AGR

1. PER YOUR REQUEST, FOLLOWING IS STATUS THIS ITEM FOR
JUNE COUNCIL MEETING.

2. WFC SECRETARIAT BASICALLY MOVING TO FILL GAP LEFT
BY CGFPI SPONSORS' (FAO, IBRD, AND UNDP) DECISION TO
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TERMINATE CGFPI. NO RECOMMENDATION WAS MADE ON HOW
TO DIVIDE CGFPI RESPONSIBILITIES. WFC PROPOSING TO SET
UP SMALL GROUPS CONSISTING OF RECIPIENT COUNTRY, ONE OR
TWO INTERESTED AGENCIES, AND FOUR DEVELOPED AND FOUR
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO PREPARE COMPREHENSIVE FOOD
STRATEGIES. INITIALLY, EFFORT WOULD BE TO REFINE FOUR
FOOD PLANS PRESENTED TO CGFPI LAST FALL (BANGLADESH,

SUDAN, HONDURAS, AND SENEGAL). BECAUSE OF TANCO INTEREST, AN EAST ASIAN COUNTRY, I.E., INDONESIA, LIKELY TO BE ADDED. WFC WOULD STIMULATE CONSULTATIVE-TYPE GROUPS TO DETAIL REPRESENTATIVES TO WORK TOGETHER AS TEAM. WE WOULD INSIST THERE BE PRIOR AGREEMENT THAT GROUPS WILL, IN PREPARING PLANS, TAKE ACCOUNT OF RURAL POVERTY BROADLY DEFINED, AND THAT PROGRAM FOR ALLEVIATION OF

THIS POVERTY WOULD ENCOMPASS COUNTRY PROGRAMS AND POLICIES THAT BEAR UPON ALLEVIATION OF HUNGER, I.E., AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION STRATEGY, POLICIES AND TRADE RELATIONSHIPS, LAND TENURE, POPULATION AND THE ROLES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. TEAMS WOULD IDENTIFY SEQUENCING OF REFORMS, AND MEANS AND LEVELS FOR FINANCING.

3. IF RECIPIENT GOVERNMENT CONCURS IN PROPOSED PROGRAM OF ACTION, INVOLVING COMMITMENTS GOVERNMENT MUST ITSELF UNDERTAKE, IT WOULD THEN SEEK FINANCING FROM TRADITIONAL DONORS, OR THROUGH OTHER MECHANISMS.

4. IMPLICATION FOR DONORS IS THAT PARTICIPATION IN PROCESS SETS AN A PRIORI ASSUMPTION THAT GOVERNMENTS WILL WORK TO SECURE MULTIYEAR FLOW OF RESOURCES TO FINANCE ACTION PROGRAMS AND, AS NECESSARY, PROVIDE TRAINING, COMMODITY AND CASH ASSISTANCE, AND OTHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASSISTANCE AND CHANGES IN BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC POLICIES THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE ACTION PROGRAM. (FYI. ASSUMPTION IS THAT WHAT A GOVERNMENT AGREES CAN GO IN PROGRAM IT WILL BE WILLING TO SUPPORT). WFC WOULD HOPE TO AGREE ON GENERAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH ALL COUNTRY PLANS WOULD BE INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED. IT WOULD MONITOR WORK OF INDIVIDUAL GROUPS, RECEIVE PERIODIC REPORTS AND THROUGH POLITICAL CLOUT OF MINISTERS BE PREPARED TO RE-ENERGIZE OR RE-ORIENT DEVELOPMENTS AS NECESSARY, BUT WOULD NOT BE OPERATIONAL.

5. THE ABOVE IS RATHER TENTATIVE REPEAT TENTATIVE AND REFLECTS AID AND USDA PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT. WALTERS REACTED POSITIVELY, AND WE WILL BE WORKING DURING SPRING TO REFINE THIS FURTHER. VANCE

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